

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR
J.T. ELLISON



3 Fantastic British Crime Shows, Sisterhood of the Traveling Cats, and a 5-Ingredient Recipe

March 2018 Newsletter
Vol. 195

Hi, Gentle Reader!



I write to you from a top-secret location in the great mountainous west, at the onset of a writing retreat. We do this every year, my husband and I. We pack up the laptops, the cats, our favorite comfy clothes, and head west. The away messages are on, our teams have been forewarned, and we settle in to create. We stay in the mountains for a couple weeks and focus on one project while we're out here. Trust me: with as much as I have in the works (I'm up to double-digit projects on my watch), paring down to a single project is a Herculean task. But I do it. I cannot tell you how freeing it is to focus on one thing.

This time, I'm working on Brit #6. There's so much fun research I get to do. I'll give you a hint: I'm reading a book on Elon Musk right now. He's a fascinating man...

The cats get a kick out of traveling. Mostly. After the first day, absolutely. We call them the Sisterhood of the Traveling Cats. The little one, Jameson, isn't as good a traveler as her sister Jordan, and is currently wandering the house growling at everything. Jordan, on the other hand, has been curled in my lap purring, and was unhappy to be displaced by the laptop. Flying with cats is always a bit of a challenge, but they get a tiny quarter of a pink pill that makes them rather boneless. They wake up in a new house, and adjust magnificently.



I hope we get some snow while we're out here. I know y'all on the East Coast are shaking your heads. Hey, we've barely had any in Nashville, and I grew up with drifts of snow each winter. For those of you who have been walloped, I hope you've fared okay—I know Old Man Winter has held you tightfisted over the past few weeks. You have my full permission to grab a hot beverage and sit down with a good book. Dr. JT will write you a note...

Speaking of lacking snow, I had a lovely time in Florida at the Southwest Florida Book Festival a couple weeks ago. I met so many of you and discovered what a charming place Ft. Myers is (what a thriving arts scene!). Many thanks to the Lee County Library for having me and throwing together such a fun event (one I've always wanted to attend!). It was a blast.

As far as the social media sabbatical... I miss seeing y'all on social media every day, but please know it's not been for, well, *naught*—I've gotten good work done, and you'll reap the benefits. Promise. See you again April 1!

Lots to talk about (since I've put myself on a self-imposed hiatus), so let's jump in.

Pre-Order THE SIXTH DAY!

(we even have signed hardcovers available...)



We are less than a month away until a new Brit in the FBI novel! *THE SIXTH DAY* comes out April 10. An evil genius. Secret twin speak. London. Ancient manuscripts. Dracula. Falcons. It's all here, friends.

[Click here to read an excerpt](#), and then [check out this awesome book trailer](#). Be still, my heart.

Barnes & Noble and Books-A-Million have signed hardcovers, each autographed by Catherine and me.(fun fact: I watched almost all of *Stranger Things* season 1 while I signed!) If you'd like a copy, hurry and grab one before they run out!

[Buy Your Copy Now!](#)

Exclusive TV Recommendations:

3 British Shows Every Thriller Lover Should Binge-Watch





Even thriller writers like to take a break with TV every now and then. These are a few of our recent favorites from across the pond.

[BROADCHURCH \(streaming on Netflix in the US\).](#)

This series is outstanding. David Tennant is a stunner, as always, along with Brit TV veteran Olivia Colman. When a young boy dies, two detectives are thrust into a complex murder investigation—and their sleepy seaside town jumps into the national spotlight. New to the town, DI Hardy (Tennant) forces his partner DI Miller (Colman) to look a deeper look at everyone she knows—or thought she knew.

[THE NIGHT MANAGER \(streaming on Amazon in the US\).](#)

This John le Carré adaptation tells of a soldier-turned-hotel-manager who infiltrates an international arms ring at the request of MI5, and it's just brilliant – and superbly cast with Tom Hiddleston pitted against Hugh Laurie (!). Put me in the “Tom Hiddleston for the next James Bond” camp because he is dashing, charming, and all kinds of badass in this series. Also included: Olivia Colman! (she turns up a lot these days – she's even going to replace Claire Foy as Queen Elizabeth II in *The Crown* next season)

[COLLATERAL. \(streaming on Netflix in the US\).](#)

The Kerr highly recommends this new BBC mini-series. COLLATERAL stars Carey Mulligan as a green-but-tough DI who investigates the murder of a pizza deliveryman in south London. But all is not as it seems. The murder is too clean, too professional to be coincidence. Why kill a pizza deliveryman? And was the shooter... female? Something much more sinister is at play...

Give these a watch – and tell us what you think!

March Favorites



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FAVORITES



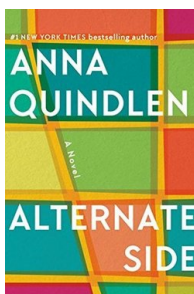
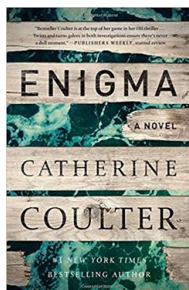
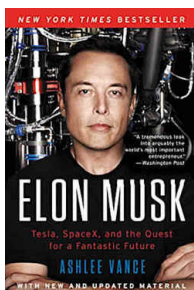
Dammann Frères Earl Grey Tea. This is what I drink every morning. It's perfectly smooth, not too much bergamot, and makes a wonderful cup of tea. I love it.

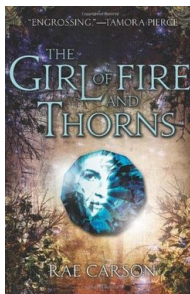
Floral Throw Pillows for Indoor and Outdoor. I recently bought throw pillows. With flowers on them. One of them was even pink. And I like them. I'm not sure what's going on with me. I mean, pink? I don't know who I am anymore.

St. Claire's Premium Organic Mints. Did you know a certain brand of pocket breath fresheners have gluten and soy in them!? No, thank you. These are 100% natural and taste delicious. They're my new go-to mints!

Tumi Voyageur Calais Backpack. This is a splurge/Christmas gift, but it's totally worth it. This backpack has plenty of storage space (including padding for my laptop), lots of pockets, and it's stylish to boot. Plus it frees up your hands to grab other stuff while you're on the go. If you do much traveling, I can't recommend this enough.

What I'm Reading





As I mentioned, this biography of Elon Musk is incredible. I have learned so much, both about Musk and the exciting technologies going into SpaceX. Superb. My dear cowriter's latest Savich and Sherlock is available now in trade paperback with a spiffy new cover. I saw it in all the airport bookstores today! Anna Quindlen has always been a favorite of mine, and this book doesn't disappoint. I absolutely love her newest, and the Upper West Side setting is exactly what I needed. I miss New York! And finally, I'm listening to Rae Carson, and loving it. She's created a very cool new world and a heroine I can get behind.

Click each cover to learn more!



And one thing of interest, bookwise – Amy and I made a book! Welcome to NO ONE KNOWS in German!!! ☺📖

If you speak the fine language, or know someone who does, please give this a try. It's very pretty, and the cover by Jeroen ten Berge is spectacularly evocative.

Check out NO ONE KNOWS in German – und danke!

Spoiler alert: We also made an audiobook of DEAD ENDS, which you'll be hearing more about VERY soon! Stay tuned... 📖

7 Useful Things I Learned from the Internet This Month



Sometimes the Internet can be a wasteland of notifications and clickbait, but it can also be a tool for good. I enjoy the randomness of the Web, and wanted to pass on these tidbits I found interesting.

1. [Y'all want to read about the Romanovs.](#) You clicked on links to I AM ANASTASIA by my brilliant friend Ariel Lawhon more than anything else last month. As you should've! Ariel has written a breathtaking account of the Romanov family's abdication, and she's done so alongside the story of Anna Anderson, who claimed from the 1920s until her death in the 1980s that she was the Grand Duchess Anastasia. Riveting.
2. [Bookstore dogs are pretty adorable.](#) We all know I'm crazy about cats (see the photos above), but I have to admit: these bookstore dogs are precious. Books and pets, how could you say no!?
3. [This is the worst place to hang your kitchen towel.](#) Oops. ☹️
4. [The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society is going to be a movie!](#) I hear you guys might have freaked out about this on Facebook... I ADORED the book.
5. [These are 8 strange and lovely words from around the world.](#) Number four may make you blush!
6. [The important thing everyone forgets to do before vacation.](#) Do you do this? I need to get better at it...
7. [Dolly Parton has now given away 100 million books to children.](#) Dolly is a national treasure, and her Imagination Library has brought the gift of story to millions of children. Bravo, Dolly!

My Favorite Instagram This Month



The Kerr has been running the Instagram in my absence. (And can we please give her a massive outpouring of love

and appreciation? She's done wonderfully!) This is her dog Toby. He wants some bacon very, very badly.

[Do you follow me on Instagram?](#) I share inspiration, writer's life, funny cartoons – and, of course, cat photos.

March's Recipe: 5-Ingredient Homemade Mayonnaise



Mayonnaise is a divisive condiment: you either love it or hate it. I happen to love the stuff, my DH despises it with the intensity of a thousand fiery suns. At any rate, I'm on a quest to make more sauces at home, with ingredients we can pronounce and feel good about (and nothing with soy), so I decided to try this recipe.

If you have a food processor or blender, this mayonnaise is a snap to make – and much better for you than anything on a grocery store shelf. It lasts a couple of weeks in the fridge.

Um, hello, I want that mayo!

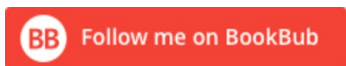
That's it from me. Wish me luck on the new book, I hope spring comes to your neighborhood soon (or lovely fall weather, if you're Down Under), and that you pick a few flowers for a friend. We'll talk again soon.

xo,

Are you still here? After all that? Wow. You deserve a unicorn!



Stay up on all of my book bargains and new books!



Let's be friends. I don't bite!



#KeepReading

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